STATE OF COLORADO

OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

130 State Capitol Denver, Colorado 80203-1792 Phone: (303) 866-2087 www.colorado.gov/ltgovernor/



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

February 11, 2005

CONTACT:

Amber O'Connor (303) 866-3125 office (720) 206-4940 cell

LT.GOVERNOR'S OFFICE HOSTS WORKSHOP ON COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS

(**DENVER**) –The Governor's Commission on Community Service, overseen by Lieutenant Governor Jane Norton, today hosted a Citizen Corps Regional Workshop Session. The event provided training and technical assistance to organization representatives who promote community preparedness, and educated community members on the importance of taking steps to prepare their communities and homes.

Lieutenant Governor Jane Norton believes that, "Putting tools into the hands of citizens by providing practical information and training helps us to create a safe, prepared, and more secure State." The Lieutenant Governor is, "encouraged to see so many Coloradans actively learning how to be prepared."

Citizen Corps emphasizes volunteerism and community service in a grassroots movement to involve citizens in making families, communities and the nation safer, stronger and better prepared. By bringing together key component programs in a collaborative effort, Citizen Corps encourages communities to create local councils to educate citizens on the importance of taking personal responsibility for preparing themselves and their neighbors in the event of a disaster situation.

This workshop was third in a series that have provided resources such as a five-step plan to educate citizens to respond quickly to disasters at home and in a place of business, volunteer recruitment and training opportunities to assist emergency responders, and ways to address local business and resident concerns. Participating speakers will be from the Department of Local Affairs: Division of Emergency Management, American Red Cross, Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Services, and members of Metro Volunteers and Volunteer Connection. Additional Citizen Corps sessions will continue to be held throughout the state.

Norton, by Executive Order, oversees the Governor's Commission on Community Service, which is guided by an advisory board of fifteen commissioners. The role of the Commission is to foster community service and volunteerism in the State.

Jane Norton was sworn in as Colorado's 46th Lieutenant Governor on January 13, 2003. Her responsibilities include serving as the chair of the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs; acting as point person for the Owens Administration on health insurance reform; strengthening families by promoting adoption, early childhood care and education efforts/initiatives, mentoring and volunteerism; and serving as Colorado's delegate to the Aerospace States Association.

###